

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 112946  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:JDAVIDOW;DH  
APPROVED BY AF:WSCHAUFLE  
AF/S:DKEOGH  
S/S- LMACFARLANE

-----172047Z 046778 /61

O 172018Z MAY 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY GABORONE NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 112946

EXDIS, MADRID FOR A LAKE WITH VP DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RH, BC

SUBJECT: RHODESIAN INCURSION INTO BOTSWANA

MAPUTO FOR EMBASSY AND AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S DELEGATION

1. FOR GABORONE: YOU SHOULD APPROACH CHARLES TIBONE AT  
EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY TO NOTE OUR DEEP CONCERN OVER  
RHODESIAN INCURSION INTO BOTSWANAN TERRITORY.

2. FOR MAPUTO: PLEASE MAKE PARALLEL ATTEMPT TO  
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CONTACT FOREIGN MIN. MOGWE, IF POSSIBLE.

3. YOU SHOULD DRAW UPON THE FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS  
IN YOUR PRESENTATIONS:

A. WE ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED AND DISTRESSED BY THE  
RHODESIAN INCURSION INTO YOUR TERRITORY. YOU HAVE OUR

SYMPATHY AND OUR SUPPORT.

B. WE HAVE WARNED THE SMITH REGIME THAT SUCH ACTION IS DAMAGING AND COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO THE CAUSE OF PEACE, AND MAY HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS WE ARE JUST BEGINNING.

C. WE HAVE ALSO SAID THAT WHILE WE REMAIN COMMITTED TO ASSISTING IN THE SEARCH FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT, SMITH HAS AN OBLIGATION TO NOT FURTHER COMPLICATE THE ISSUE, AND MAKE OUR INVOLVEMENT THAT MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO JUSTIFY.

D. SMITH REGIME IS JUSTIFYING ATTACK AS HOT PURSUIT OF GUERRILLAS WHO ALLEGEDLY KILLED THREE INDIVIDUALS AT PLUMTREE ON EVENING OF MAY 15. WE ARE MAKING CLEAR TO THE RHODESIANS THAT WE VIEW SUCH ATTACKS AS THREATENING THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS REGARDLESS OF THE ALLEGED CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THEM.

E. WHILE DR. OWEN HAS NOTED THAT WE CANNOT EXPECT GUERRILLA ACTIVITY AND MILITARY PRESSURE TO CEASE DURING NEGOTIATIONS, WE CANNOT CONDONE AT THE SAME TIME THE KILLING OF CIVILIANS BY ANY ELEMENT IN THE STRUGGLE. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INFORMATION CONTROL, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, INVASIONS, REPRISALS  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1977STATE112946  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JDAVIDOW;DH  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
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**Subject:** RHODESIAN INCURSION INTO BOTSWANA MAPUTO FOR EMBASSY AND AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S DELEGATION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MOPS, RH, BC, US, (MOGWE, AM)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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